

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 CEQ-01 EPA-04 IO-13 NSF-02 FEA-01

PRS-01 PA-02 /126 W

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R 211800Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2699

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 372

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, SENV, ENRG, CA, US

SUBJECT: VANCOUVER PRESS REACTION TO FEDERAL DECISION PERMITTING
BEAUFORT SEA DRILLING

1. VANCOUVER PRESS REACTION TO FEDERAL CABINET DECISION TO ALLOW
DRILLING THIS SUMMER IN BEAUFORT SEA WAS DIVIDED.
VANCOUVER SUN, IN LEAD EDITORIAL HEADLINED "BEAUFORT FOLLIES",
CALLED DECISION "FUNDAMENTALLY UNSOUND, DANGEROUS AND UNNECESSARY

.
EDITORIAL STATED ECONOMIC VALUE
OF DRILLING IN DOUBT UNLESS MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE APPROVED,
DECISION WHICH WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL AT LEAST NEXT YEAR.
IF OIL IS FOUND IT IS UNLIKELY IT CAN BE TRANSPORTED SOUTH
UNTIL THE LATE 1980'S IF BLOWOUT OR SPILL OCCURS, NO

KNOWN TECHNOLOGY CAN CONTROL IT UNDER ARCTIC CONDITIONS.

2. VANCOUVER PROVINCE ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT WAS SOUTHAM NEWS
SERVICE COLUMN DATED OTTAWA BY CHARLES LYNCH WHICH
ATTACHED CRITICS OF DECISION AS "DOOMSAYERS" AND DESCRIBED

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CANADA AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHICH NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO
EXPAND RESOURCES NEEDED TO RUN ITSELF. NORTHER DEVELOPMENT

COULD GIVE NATIVES A SHARE IN PROSPERITY AND NOT "WELFARE
AND PATERNALIS".

3. COPIES OF BOTH EDITORIALS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND
OTTAWA.
BURGOON

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